Conditions During the Depression

1. Hunger Marches
- Org. by American Communist Party
2. Farm Holiday Association
- Farmers destroyed crops to try to raise prices
3. Bread Lines and Soup Kitchens Appeared
- Private and religious charity was not adequate to feed hungry
4. Hoovervilles established
- Shack villages where homeless lived
5. Rise of Hobo
- Traveled often on trains looking for work
6. Bonus Army
- Approx 17,000 WWI vets camped Hoovervilles demanding their WWI vet bonus early
- Attacked by the army- Battle of Washington
7. Dust Bowl
- Man made natural disaster from plowing up too much natural grasses on the Plains which were over-farmed
- Drought struck for years from Dakotas to Texas (centered in Oklahoma panhandle)
- So severe it blackened the sky and often killed people
- Resulted in migration out of region often west to California- refugees called Okies- 2.5 million fled up to 400,000 to California
- Chronicled in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*